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WASTE AND RECYCLING ACADEMY **FOCUS ON EDUCATION**

---NEWS RELEASE---

(November 14, 2008)--- Hartford Mayor Eddie A. Perez and the City's Department of Public Works are pleased to announce the new Waste and Recycling Academy. The purpose is to educate people on Hartford's city codes and guidelines in regards to trash, recycling, bulky waste, and scrap metal and how to handle things such as household hazardous waste and electronic waste.

Mayor Perez says, "We all need to be on the same page when it comes to proper disposal. Education is the key. This classroom effort will benefit residents in all of our neighborhoods so that people can correct past mistakes and also prevent those mistakes from happening in the first place."

A classroom set-up will consist of:

1. Residents who received warnings and citations for improperly putting out their waste at the curb
2. Community groups, small business, and non-profit organizations wanting to learn proper disposal practices according to the City's policies and procedures
3. Landlords and tenants who want to comply with proper disposal practices

The Department of Public Works used to have a hearing format for individual consultations. The process will change to a classroom instruction format as of January 2009.

Clarence Corbin, Director of Public Works says, "Approximately 20 to 30 people will be in one class at one time. This change is to save time, energy, resources, and money and will more effectively communicate accurate information."

The classes will be held at 523 Main Street in Downtown Hartford.